## **PP-95**

Arbuscular Mycorrhiza-interaction for improved Salinity Tolerance in Cowpea (Vigna unguiculata L.Walp).

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The aim of the study was to examine the effect of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF) on the morphological attributes in cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* [L.] Walp. subjected to salt stress. Salt stress (0.25%, 0.35% and 0.45% NaCl) reduced germination, shoot length, no. of leaves, no. of flowers, no. of pods and no. of seeds per pod of cowpea. AMF ameliorated the negative impact of salinity on the growth parameters studied. AMF-inoculated plants provide efficient protection against salt stress and gives strength to the plant's defense system. AMF also increased uptake of mineral elements of plant. The present study shows that AMF possesses the potential to enhance salt tolerance of cowpea.

Key words- Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF), Salt stress, Cowpea

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